



# ulletin

OF SWEET BRIAR COLLEGE

Number 3

April 1979



**MARY LEE SETTLE** '40, who won the 1978 National Book Award for her novel "Blood Tie," gave the annual Nida Tomlin Watts Creative Writing Workshop at Sweet Briar on March 27. Ms. Settle was a member of the same class at Sweet Briar as Mrs. Watts, so her appearance was particularly appropriate for the occasion.

Ms. Settle, who authored *The Kiss of Kin*, *The Love Eaters*, *Fight Night on a Sweet Saturday*, and others, read to an appreciative audience of students, alumnae, and faculty from her novel *The Clam Shell*, which is set at Sweet Briar. Her wry rendering of May Day back in the late 30's summoned up both laughter and memories.

Later she answered questions about writing "Never rewrite until you've finished the first draft," she said, "then rewrite the hell out of it if you want to. Become your own critic."

As to what authors she reads, Ms. Settle said, "Always Conrad, never James Joyce or Henry James (their styles are too easily imitated). Proust always. Dorothy Sayers sometimes. Stendahl usually. Those are the ones I reread."

Ms. Settle, who periodically teaches writing at the University of Virginia, divides her time between Charlottesville and Norfolk. She is married to William L. Tazewell, former associate editor of the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.

**NANCY HANKS**, former chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, gave the Sue Reid Slaughter Lecture on March 28 on the topic "Public Policy and the Arts."

Describing the vast upsurge in artistic activity in the United States over the past 15 years, Miss Hanks pointed to the increase in the number of professional symphony orchestras, theatre companies, and dance companies; the expansion of museums and museum programs; and the growth of the concept of touring companies and exhibitions. "We are becoming used to the arts in our lives," she remarked.

As one of the highest ranking women in the Nixon Administration, Miss Hanks was responsible for administering the federal government's first genuine attempt to subsidize our cultural institutions, and she can take credit for the expansion of the NEA's programs at the grass roots level to

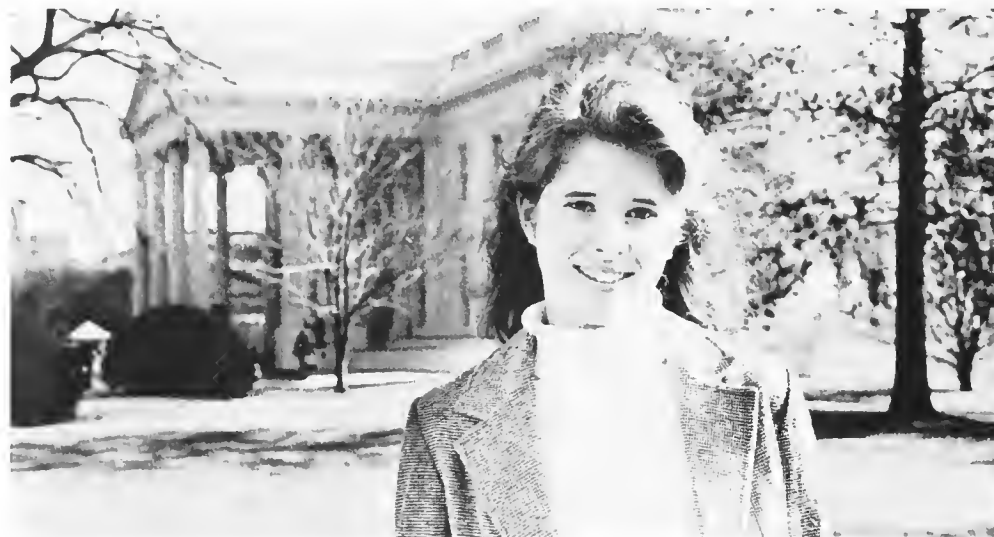
bring live performance to small communities and the arts to the schools.

Nonetheless, Miss Hanks was quick to note that "support of the arts in this country is still basically private, with 60 percent coming from individuals. . . . There has been on the order of a ten-fold increase in the support from corporations that is being directed toward television sponsorship," she said. "The level of foundation giving is about the same. What is not included in any figures is the tremendous amount of volunteer time."

While she was at Sweet Briar, Miss Hanks toured the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts at Mt. San Angelo with Director Bill Smart and Assistant Director Julia de Coligny. "It's just wonderful what they're doing over there," she said. "It's the first time I've liked a barn. And it's interesting that so much of the work is being done by CETA workers."



Senior chemistry major Lynn Westine from Delray Beach, FL, spent her Winter Term working with Dr. Duncan Haynes of the Department of Pharmacology at the University of Miami Medical School. As an outcome of her work, she is now joint author with Dr. Haynes of a note in the *Journal of Colloid and Interface Science*, entitled "Why Divalent-cation-induced Aggregation of Phosphatidylserine and Phosphatidic Acid Vesicles Occurs at Less than Diffusion-Controlled Rates."



Lisa Allison

## FOR 41 SWEET BRIAR

**STUDENTS**, Winter Term 1979 meant an internship, a chance to explore and prove themselves in the "Real World." Of these, 31 were in Washington, D. C., mostly as political interns with congressmen or senators on the Hill and in government-related offices.

**Lisa Allison** of Atlanta worked in the busy West Wing of the White House in the office of Jack Watson, who is secretary to the Cabinet and assistant to the President for intergovernmental affairs. Working in the White House was a dizzying experience for the Sweet Briar sophomore, with political figures, newsmen and women, and other notables coming in and out. While she was there, the office was preparing for the visit of Deng Xiaoping. "I averaged 10 hours a day with no lunch break," Miss Allison said, "and I learned a lot."

**Dawne Cotton** of Paradise Valley, AZ, worked in Senator Dennis Deconcini's office. While there she handled constituency mail—letters from the

folks back home. "My internship was excellent," Miss Cotton said, "and good experience in general."

**Christina Andrews** of Potomac, MD, was an intern in the International Activities Office of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D. C. Working high in one of the Smithsonian's crenellated towers overlooking the Mall, Andrews drafted letters relating to the museum's far-reaching international activities. "It was my first job, she confessed, "and a very valuable experience."

**Frances Root** of Wilton, CT, was an editorial research intern with the National Geographic Society. While there she was assigned to *World*, a children's magazine published by *National Geographic*, and worked on *Far-out Facts*, a book the editors are preparing for publication.

**Leslie MacNeil** of Mequon, WI, was an intern at the Republican National Committee headquarters. While there she worked at updating political action committee (PAC) lists, in three weeks making some 800 phone calls to corporations which will get the Committee's newsletter.

**Saralee Cowles** of St. Simons Island, GA, interned with the Government Research Corporation. A major in international affairs, Miss Cowles worked with the GRC's International Division doing research in the library, attending hearings, reading government publications, and fact-finding in various other ways.

She was enthusiastic about the experience. "I'm the first intern of this sort they've had here," she said. "I was not only learning and doing, I had a chance to write. The work was unstructured and I proved I can do it."

Internships are a very important kind of career preparation. Young women with liberal arts backgrounds discover that their ability to write clearly and to deal with new tasks and problems intelligently are in demand. Without exception their supervisors were enthusiastic; several seniors came away with job offers and all have valuable job experience to show on their resumes.

**HELP A BUDDING INSTRUMENTALIST** get her start at Sweet Briar. Donate your long forgotten, but beloved (and preferably still playable) instrument to the Sweet Briar Music Department.

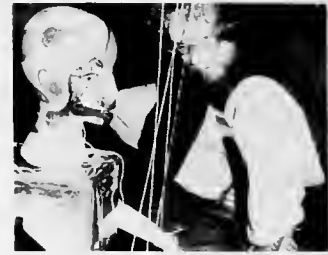
Especially welcome are: strings (violin, viola, cello, guitar), woodwinds (piccolo, flute, clarinet, bassoon, saxophone), brasses (trumpet, cornet, French horn, trombone), and percussion instruments (but maybe not a bass drum).

We need your help. If you have any questions, please get in touch with the Music Department.



**CORRECTION:** The amount of Sweet Briar's National Science Foundation CAUSE grant was *correctly* reported as \$151,200 in the October *Bulletin* under "Grants and Bequests" but given *incorrectly* in the same issue as \$51,200 under "Faculty Activities & Accomplishments," where Phyllis Stevens was cited as author of the CAUSE proposal. We apologize for this critical loss of a digit. Dr. Stevens is also director of the CAUSE project to develop computer and video-playback programs to help students get over math anxiety and improve math skills.

A three-day Micro-Festival of New Poetry in January brought to the campus a group of young experimental poets calling themselves members of the "Baltimore Renaissance." In addition to readings, four of the poets put on a performance combining percussive and electronic music, video and audio tapes, and far-out visual effects, such as this animated puppet being put into action by poet Christopher Mason.



## A WORKSHOP ON HUMANITIES AND INTER-DISCIPLINARY STUDIES,

sponsored by the Association of Independent Schools of Greater Washington, was held at Holton-Arms School in Bethesda, MD, on January 27.

The brainchild of Julia Mills Jacobsen '45, director of government relations and sponsored programs at Sweet Briar, and Gregory T. Armstrong, professor of religion, the program was directed toward the heads of schools and pre-college-level teachers of English, foreign languages, history, fine arts and music, philosophy, and religion.

Faculty from Randolph-Macon Woman's College, Mary Baldwin, and Hollins were invited to join Sweet Briar faculty as panelists on the program, with Dr. Armstrong serving as moderator.

The consensus among participants was that the colleges would like the secondary schools to concentrate on teaching their students "vertically" to give them some depth in specific subjects, leaving "horizontal" interdisciplinary teaching to the colleges.

Because the workshop was so successful, Mrs. Jacobsen and Dr. Armstrong hope that similar programs will be held in other key cities.

## LIVING

**WITH THE LOSSES**, a three-day symposium on bereavement planned by the Reverend Sallie Carter, College Chaplain, and Beth Schnitman, assistant dean of student affairs, brought a remarkable group of speakers and panelists to the campus February 12 to 14.

The opening-night speaker was Will D. Campbell, self-styled "missionary to the dispossessed," who is director of the Committee of Southern Churchmen in Nashville. Campbell read from his autobiographical *Brother to a Dragonfly*, illustrating various aspects of grief.

The other major speaker was James B. Carse, professor of the history of religion at New York University, known to many for his appearances on CBS Television's "Sunrise Semester." He is the editor of "A Book of Readings and Sources, Death and Society," and author of a "Death and Human Existence," to be published by John Wiley next fall.

## ETHICS IN

**CONTEMPORARY LIFE** was the topic of the 1979 Winter Forums sponsored by the Alumnae Association, which drew audiences concerned about corporate campaign con-

tributions, bribery of public officials, environmental regulations, cloning, test-tube babies, food additives, and other current issues. The series of four programs were held on successive Thursday mornings during January and February.

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHERS

at both the high school and college level from all over Virginia met at Sweet Briar on March 16 and 17 for the annual meeting of the Foreign Language Association of Virginia (FLAVA).

Featured speakers were Marshall Brannon, Office of Languages, Virginia Department of Education; James C. Bostain, Foreign Service Institute, Department of State; and M. Patrick Gautrat, Press Attache, French Embassy, Washington, D. C.

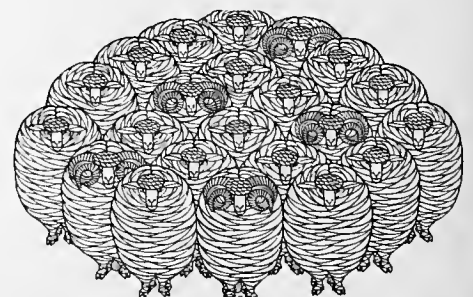
The largest delegation came from the College of William and Mary, with eight faculty members and a graduate student presenting papers, chairing sessions, or both. Five from Virginia Commonwealth University participated, as did faculty from a dozen other universities and schools.

**Robert G. Marshall**, professor of French and director of the Junior Year in France, was elected president of the Association for two years.

## OF EIGHTEEN

**ART EXHIBITIONS** at Sweet Briar this year, five displayed the work of fellows of the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts. Now the Center has its own gallery, originally a hay barn which was transformed thanks to a gift from the J. L. Camp Foundation.

First to be shown in the gallery were the woodcuts of Jacques Hnizdovsky, a VCCA fellow whose work was exhibited early in April. Considered by many to be the world's foremost woodcut craftsman, Hnizdovsky's stylized and elegant renditions of the natural world delighted all who attended the opening of his show on April 1.



*President Whiteman met recently with presidents and administrative personnel of the Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges' twelve member institutions to plan broader recognition for corporate supporters of the VFIC and its member colleges. John A. Logan, Jr. (left), president of the Independent College Funds of America underscored the budget balancing reliance of private colleges on voluntary corporate support.*



## FACULTY GRANTS: Jane

**Perry-Camp**, associate professor of music, has been awarded the Sweet Briar Faculty Fellowship Grant for 1979-80. Announcement of the \$10,000 award was made by the Committee on Faculty Grants this past November.

Dr. Perry-Camp's research project will be "to examine the undeciphered marks on Mozart's autograph musical manuscripts and to suggest possible origins and meanings for them."

Dr. Perry-Camp's background in Mozart studies dates from her graduate work and doctoral thesis on Mozart's piano sonatas. She extended that study under a National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship during 1973-74.

Two other important grants were announced March 21. The Cabell Faculty Enrichment grant has been awarded to **Susan Bandes**, assistant professor of art history, to study the frescoes of Luigi Garzi in Italy. This

grant, supported by the Cabell Foundation of Richmond, and settled by a joint student-faculty group, is considered a distinct honor for the recipient.

**Marta Ana Diz**, assistant professor of Spanish and **Virginia Ruth Neilson** '80 from Tuscaloosa, AL, have been awarded grants from the Maurice L. Mednick Memorial Fund administered by the Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges.

Dr. Diz will visit libraries in New York City and at Princeton University for two months this summer to continue her research in Spanish medieval literature. Her project is an analysis of 53 Spanish short stories contained in the "Libro del Conde Lucanor" by the Infante Don Manuel.

Miss Neilson, an honor student majoring in political economy, is secretary of the Student Government Association and an outstanding member of the varsity swim team.

The Maurice L. Mednick Memorial

was created in 1967 in honor of a young Norfolk industrialist who died from accidental causes. Administration of the memorial fund was vested in the VFIC to encourage the professional development of college teachers and to assist upper-class students of demonstrated ability.

Grants from general funds were made to the following: **Gerald Berg**, assistant professor of history; **Jacqueline Browning**, assistant professor of economics; **Ross Dabney**, professor of English; **John Daughtry**, assistant professor of mathematics; **Milan Hapala**, Carter Glass professor of government; **Aileen Laing**, associate professor of art history; **Willa Nehlsen**, assistant professor of biology; **John Shannon**, professor of music; **Brent Shea**, assistant professor of sociology; **Karl Tamburr**, assistant professor of English; **Paul Taylor**, associate professor of history; and **Raymond Twiddy**, associate professor of studio art.

## SPORTS SCENE:

The Sweet Briar **riding team** and Sophomore **Jamie Planck** from Prospect, KY, successfully defended their respective titles as National Team Champions and National Individual Champion at the Second Annual National Invitational Intercollegiate Three-Phase Riding Championships, sponsored by the National Riding Commission at The Barracks in Charlottesville, VA, March 24 and 25.

The Sweet Briar team racked up 1454 points, followed by the University of Virginia with 1301 points, the U.S. Military Academy with 1262.5 points, and Lake Erie College with 1247.5 points. Planck finished with 557 points to 471.5 points for Reserve Champion Leslie Carter from the University of Virginia.

An expert horsewoman who fre-

quently shows on the horseshow circuit, Planck has been named Princess of this year's Kentucky Derby. She also has a good track record academically and keeps her name on the Dean's List.

The **swim team** placed second after the University of Richmond at the UAIAW State Championships (small college) held at James Madison University, February 22 to 24.

Top swimmers for Sweet Briar were **Whitley Greene** of Roanoke, VA, **Siggy Carlen** of Salem, VA, **Gina Neilson** of Tuscaloosa, AL, and **Libby Shakelford** of Mission Hills, KA. Diver **Jill Steenhuis** of Atlanta, placed second in both the 1- and 3-meter dives.

This was the second year of competition for Sweet Briar's team, which

last year won the state title.

The **tennis team** got off to a good start with a decisive 6-3 win over Randolph-Macon Woman's College in the opening match, on March 29. On the same day the Sweet Briar Vixens opened their **lacrosse** season with a 15-1 victory over RMWC.

When the Sweet Briar **basketball team** beat Hollins for the first time in four years on February 15, "men cheered, women fainted, and children flew multi-colored banners," wrote **Toni Santangelo** and **Robin Behm** in the Sweet Briar News. "President Whiteman offered congratulatory hugs, Coach Beecher was carried off the court on the shoulders of her players... and the entire team climbed into the bell tower and rang the bells in celebration of their victory."

SWEET BRIAR,  
VIRGINIA 24595

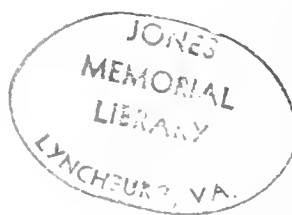
Published in  
September,  
October,  
April, June

JONES MEMORIAL LIBRARY  
ACCESSIONS AND GIFTS DEPT  
RIVERMONT AVE  
LYNCHBURG VA 24503

OF  
SWEET  
BRIAR  
COLLEGE  
April 1979

bulletin

n/a



Virginia Room  
Jones Memorial Library  
Lynchburg, Virginia

Second Class  
Postage  
PAID at  
Sweet Briar,  
Va. 24595

378.75  
2